Leicester, July 17/62.

Dear Charles,

Since you were here, (within 2 or 3 days in fact,) a lady who was at your lecture in this village has handed me fifty £s, as her answer to yr. appeal then. As I can't to well lend you the money, I enclose you the value of the same in postage stamps, & you will please enter the Same to the credit of the "Collection in Leicester" - "small eno' at the best."

— Let me relieve my anxious spirit, by an earnest appeal to you to lose no time in completing our Report. Ever bear in mind how diminished our funds are, & how hard it is to raise money now,

(& in the subject)
and, as far as in you lieth,
keep within the bounds which
the Constn suggested — i.e.,
as I believe you understand,
without feeling confined to them,
do not go beyond them, save
as may appear to you very
essential indeed.

— I suppose you will
return to Florence this week,
and I will direct this there.

— If Lincoln vetoes the
Confiscation Bill, — passed as
it was in both Houses nearly
2 to 1 — I believe I shall
entirely give him up. — My
Confidence in his capacity

& fitness for the place has
been much shaken ~~for~~ in the
past few weeks;— ~~from~~ as the
time that he ~~acted~~ nullified
Hunter's proclamation it began
indeed to be impaired.— Accounts
of his talks & sentiments however
are conflicting — both may be true,
and so he would be a trimmer
& double-tongued, which I am
loth, I confess, to believe him to be.
— C. Sumner, in his letter to the
great N.Y.K. Meeting, does not
hint even anything of the confidence
in Lincoln which his former
letters have been so full. Ruin
stares us in the face,— i.e. as a
United Country. If we can't be

We are laboring for the new earth, heaven, & true liberty, & our reliance is in God. The women are brave & resolute,

united, and free, may we never see a Union again. It will be said, after the holocaust of life which the North has offered in this war, to find ourselves outwitted, defeated, beaten at every point. And if we are beaten, Lincoln is the criminal. - McClellan has been no hypocrite, at least. He has never pretended to fight the battles of freedom, but the contrary; & Lincoln & Seward & all of them have known it from the first. Lincoln's running to West Point to see old Scott's advice was, as I now look at it, humiliating & pitiable. - Truly Yrs. S. May Jr -

MS. B.1.6 v.9, p.39